

Appl. No. : 10/033,167
Filed : December 27, 2001

REMARKS

Applicants have hereby reopened the prosecution of the pending claims in the above-captioned application by filing herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and submitting an amended set of claims. The amendments present for examination claims directed to isolated nucleic acid molecules that hybridize to a complement of the nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:6, and various fragments thereof, under stringent hybridization conditions. Support for the amendments are found in the specification at, *inter alia*, page 44, line 29, to page 45, line 1, where high stringency conditions are defined, and page 10, line 12, to page 11, line 14, where the nucleic acid molecules that hybridize to the complement of SEQ ID NO:6, or fragments thereof, are described.

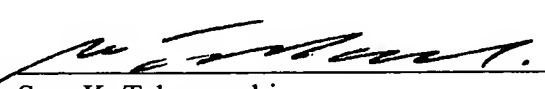
By the present amendments, Applicants make no admission as to the patentability of the previously pending claims. Applicants reserve the right to pursue, in this or any other application, the full scope of the subject matter of the claims pending prior to the present amendments. Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims, as presented herewith, are patentable and a notice to that affect is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed due in connection with these amendments. Applicants have submitted a check in the amount of \$770 in connection with the RCE. If this fee is incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-0630. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if any issues may be resolved through a telephonic conversation.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 6, 2004

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